

Remarks Following a Meeting With Leaders of the Central Asia Five Nations in New York City
September 19, 2023

It's an honor to be here with you, our first Presidential summit, all the Presidents around this table and the Secretary of State.

I think this is a historic moment. We're building on years of close cooperation between Central Asia and the United States, a cooperation that is grounded in our shared commitment to sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity. These principles matter more than ever, in my view. And today we're taking our cooperation to new heights.

First, we are strengthening our counterterrorism cooperation, including increased U.S. security funding to Central Asia.

Second, we're strengthening regional economic connectivity. For example, we're establishing a new business platform to complement our diplomatic engagement and better connect our private sectors for development purposes. And we are also discussing the potential for a new critical minerals dialogue to strengthen our energy security and supply chains for years to come.

And third, we're launching a new initiative on disability rights.

And I want to thank you all for your fruitful conversation today, which has already taken place. And I look forward to working with all of you to do even more in the future. I am genuinely looking forward to following up on our—on this meeting, because we are stronger and I genuinely believe the world is safer when we stand together, our five nations.

So thank you very, very much for making the effort. And I look forward to seeing you soon, possibly in one of your countries. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:57 p.m. at United Nations Headquarters. In his remarks, he referred to President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev of Kazakhstan; President Sadyr Japarov of Kyrgyzstan; President Emomali Rahmon of Tajikistan; President Serdar Berdimuhamedov of Turkmenistan; and President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of Uzbekistan.

Categories: Meetings With Foreign Leaders and International Officials : Central Asian Five Nations, leaders.

Locations: New York City.

Names: Berdimuhamedov, Serdar; Blinken, Antony J.; Japarov, Sadyr; Mirziyoyev, Shavkat; Rahmon, Emomali; Tokayev, Kassym-Jomart.

Subjects: Central Asian nations, counterterrorism cooperation with U.S.; Central Asian nations, relations with U.S.; Central Asian nations, trade with U.S.; Critical minerals, supply chain improvements; Disability rights; Kazakhstan, President; Kyrgyzstan, President; New York, President's visit; Secretary of State; Tajikistan, President; Turkmenistan, President; Uzbekistan, President.

DCPD Number: DCPD202300808.